
By: **Delegate Sophocleus**
Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2003
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Marriage Ceremonies - Orphans' Court Judges**

3 FOR the purpose of adding a judge of the orphans' court to the list of judges who may
4 perform a marriage ceremony; and generally relating to marriage ceremonies.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article - Family Law
7 Section 2-406(a)
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - Family Law**

13 2-406.

14 (a) (1) In this subsection, "judge" means a sitting or retired judge of THE
15 ORPHANS' COURT, the District Court, a circuit court, the Court of Special Appeals, the
16 Court of Appeals, the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, or the
17 United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, or a sitting or retired judge of
18 another state or federal court that has substantially equivalent jurisdiction.

19 (2) A marriage ceremony may be performed in this State by:

20 (i) any official of a religious order or body authorized by the rules
21 and customs of that order or body to perform a marriage ceremony;

22 (ii) any clerk;

23 (iii) any deputy clerk designated by the county administrative judge
24 of the circuit court for the county; or

25 (iv) a judge.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2003.